

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 644

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center upon the occasion of its sixtieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should specially recognize those venerable religious institutions which, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable institution is the Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center of Linden, which this year celebrates sixty years of dedicated service to the good people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, since the 1920s, the Tennessee Baptist Convention has provided extraordinary opportunities for boys and girls from across the State of Tennessee to experience the beauty and wonder of the outdoors through summer camping experiences; and

WHEREAS, in 1947, Tennessee Baptists resolved to open and operate two camps, one in East Tennessee and the other in western Middle Tennessee, for the purpose of training and nurturing boys and girls; and

WHEREAS, the western property, purchased in Perry County on the banks of the Buffalo River, became Camp Linden, known today as the Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center; and

WHEREAS, though the first buildings at Camp Linden were largely military buildings rendered purposeless at the end of World War II, the Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center now boasts full amenities; and

WHEREAS, the camp features eleven camp lodges capable of accommodating as many as 350 people; meeting accommodations for 150 people; forty double-occupancy guest rooms; a porch with rocking chairs; and a 150-yard river walk; and

WHEREAS, while construction on the facility began in 1947, the year 1949 is recognized as the official year in which the first summer camps were held; in 2000, new conference center buildings were dedicated, and the name was officially changed from Camp Linden to Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center; and

WHEREAS, today, Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center offers year-round opportunities for youth and adults to escape the rush of life and experience the majesty and holiness of God and the splendor of his creation through the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, because of the magnificent efforts and foresight of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, thousands of people visit Linden Valley each year and gain a clearer picture of who God is; and

WHEREAS, the Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center in Linden has for sixty years provided singular opportunities that have enriched the lives of the members of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and followers of Christ across and beyond the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the administration and staff of the Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center, thank them for sixty years of dedicated service to God and to the people of this State, and extend to them our best wishes for every success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.